

As the lead TV director for First Baptist Church San Antonio, I have a vested interest in this decision that you will have to make. It might surprise you to know, that it's not for the preservation of my unpaid directorship, but for the giant hole that it will create in the lives of so many in our area. For over 30 years, the local ABC affiliate has provided us with the same time slot to present our services, live as they happen. What the viewer sees is what the in-house congregation sees. This is important for many reasons. One reason is that the viewer is made to feel a part of the worship experience. They can join us from a hospital bed, motel or from the nursing home and feel as if they are there. Many of our current members were first touched by the power of this broadcast. If you take away local control of programming and put it in the hands of the networks, you will destroy this ministry of many local churches. In another sense you will destroy the bond the local stations have with their communities. Local TV becomes the same as canned, pre-programmed radio is now. This decision should not be based on money or political clout the major networks can muster. This decision must be based on the needs of the local community. Please consider this when trying to decide how you will vote on this precious resource.